

Rescue on White Lake

July 1979

Whether it is while people are swimming or boating, drowning accidents seem to occur all too often at this time of year. However, thanks to the quick thinking of a White Lake cottager one dark night last July, one possible boating tragedy was avoided.

Jim Monette of Three Mile Bay raced to the rescue of a boater who was knocked into the water when his boat struck a submerged object. The man, Harold Turner was returning home alone in his 10 horsepower aluminum boat when the accident occurred.

Mr Turner was flung into the water and in danger of being run over by his own boat which was circling madly around him. He tried to swim and call for help but was forced to submerge often to avoid being hit by the boat.

Fortunately, Jim Monette was nearby on his dock and heard the crash and cries for help. He jumped into his own boat and equipped with only a flashlight managed to locate the struggling swimmer.

Mr Monette quickly threw a life preserver to the man and pulled him to

safety while the second boat continued to circle the two of them. It continued its mad circling until after about 25 times, it finally struck rocks and stopped.

Mr Monette often comes to the rescue of stranded motorists in White Lake, but it's the first time he has ever saved a man from almost certain drowning.

Go-ahead